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SIPDIS

FOR I/FW, B/G, IIP/G/NEA-SA, B/VOA/N (BANGLA SERVICE) STATE
FOR SA/PAB, SA/PPD (LSCENSNY, SSTRYKER), SA/RA, INR/R/MR,
AND PASS TO USAID FOR ANE/ASIA/SA/B (WJOHNSON)

CINCPAC FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR, J51 (MAJ TURNER), J45
(MAJ NICHOLLS)

USARPAC FOR APOP-IM (MAJ HEDRICK)

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KMDR OIIP OPRC KPAO PREL ETRD PTER ASEC BG OCII BGD

SUBJECT: Media Reaction: U.K. Elections; Dhaka

Summary: Conservative "Ittefaq" says that Bangladesh's
fragile democracy has many things to learn from the British
election.

U.K. Elections

"Results of U.S. elections"
Conservative Bangla language newspaper "Ittefaq" editorially
comments (5/9):

Blair has spoken about leaving his post before the next
election. The Conservative leader Howard has also pledged
to give up his post.

We have many things to learn from elections in Britain.
Conservative leader Howard is voluntarily giving up the
party leadership for his party's failure in elections.
Blair also said that he would leave the post in spite of
leading his party in three successive election wins. Nobody
raised allegations of rigging. It is remarkable that the
Conservative leader has congratulated the leader of the
winning party. The British parliament is considered the
mother of all parliaments. Therefore, our fragile democracy
has many things to learn from the British election.

Thomas